

The Art of MFF

MASTERPIECES RISING FROM WAR'S ASHES

PROJECT IN PROGRESS

# A TERMINALLY ILL ANGEL NAMED UKRAINE

UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF



STATE BORDER GUARD SERVICE OF UKRAINE

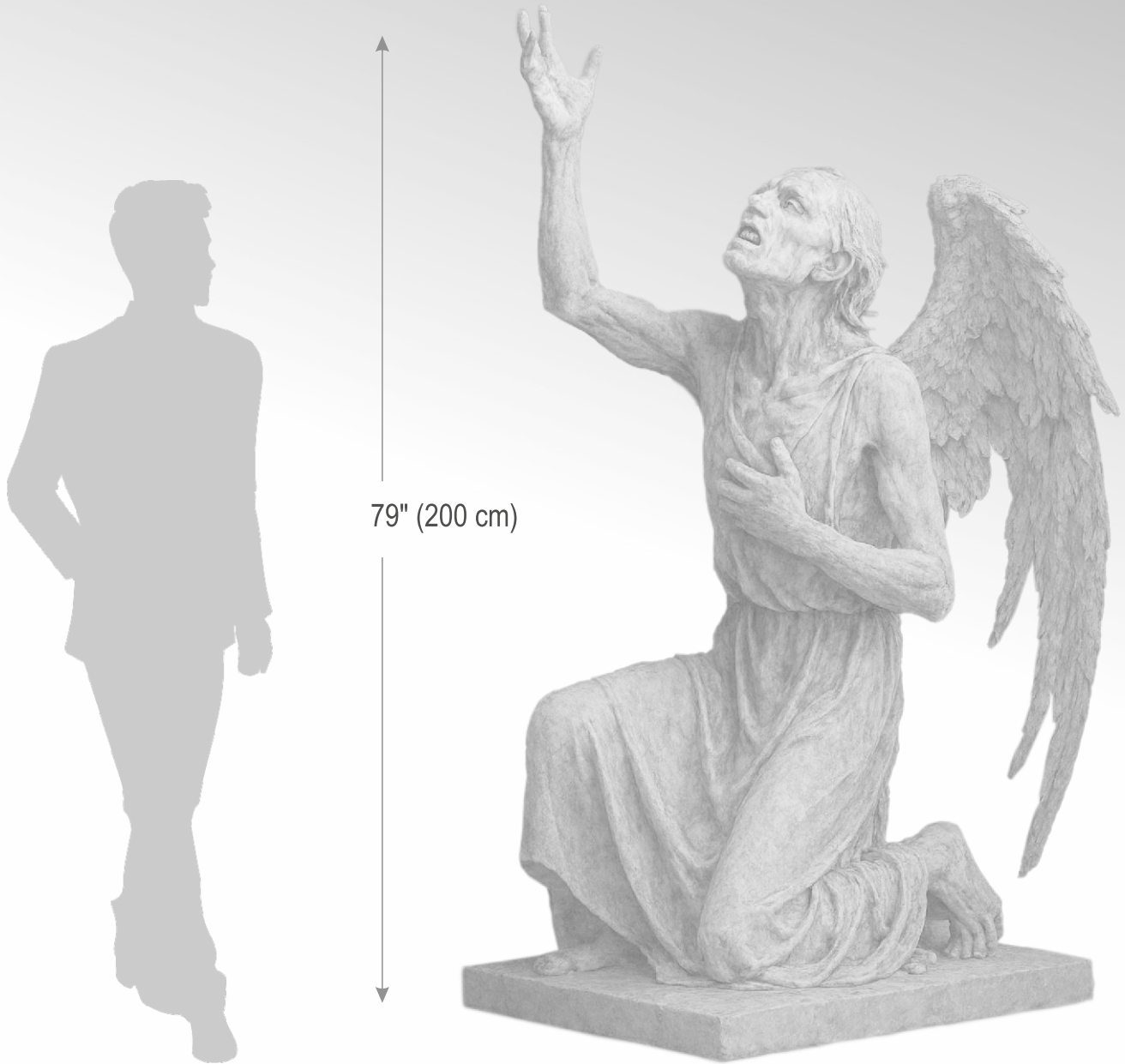


DIGITAL AD AGENCY  
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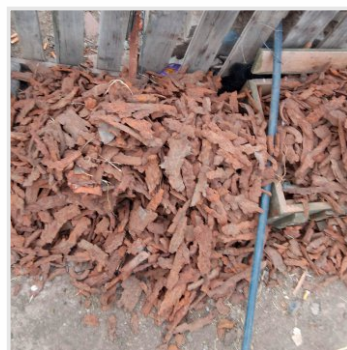
**METALL**  
**CHEMIE**  
PRIVATE ENTERPRISE



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The sculpture "A Terminally Ill Angel" is being crafted using a one-of-a-kind technique developed by American artist Sergey Melnikoff in collaboration with Ukrainian electric welding master Viktor Bielchyk. The material for this winged figure consists of fragments of artillery shells and mines collected from active war zones in Ukraine.



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**THE BEGINNING**





# The Art of MEE



The creation of any sculpture begins with the construction of a metal framework that serves as the skeleton, providing the necessary rigidity for the future artwork. Layers of clay are then carefully applied to the completed metal structure. The clay model serves as the foundation for working with shards, from which Sergey Melnikoff creates a unique work of art. The sketch of the “Angel” was designed by Dr. Melnikoff with the assistance of AI.



# The Art of MFT



A unique technique developed by an American artist during the years of war in Ukraine makes it possible to reproduce every element of a clay model in minute detail using tiny fragments of military munitions, fused together by electric welding. The smaller the fragments, the more precisely they can capture the anatomical structure of the human body, as well as the folds and details of clothing.



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Each fragment is meticulously selected and sorted by the artist to infuse the sculpture with deep symbolism and emotional power. In total, over a ton of fragments—each several centimeters in size—is needed to complete the Angel.

In the photo: Ukrainian metalworker Viktor Bielchyk, chief welder of the project.



# The Art of MFT



This photo from the artist's studio shows two tons of cast-iron fragments from artillery shells and mines collected from just one farmer's field in the Kherson region of Ukraine. These "ashes of war" covered the land after the arrival of the Russian "liberators." It is precisely such witnesses of immense human suffering that serve as the raw material for the artworks of Sergey Melnikoff.



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The tunic that covers the figure of the Angel is made from 30 mm heavy machine gun shell casings. Both intact and explosion-deformed casings are used. They are cut, and the resulting metal strips are forged on an anvil to achieve the desired shape. These elements are then welded together. Creating a single tunic requires more than 500 shell casings.



# The Art of MFF





The Art of MEE





The Art of MFF

MASTERPIECES RISING FROM WAR'S ASHES



GOLDEN HOPE  
&  
NICKEL DESPAIR





Using his proprietary techniques, Sergey Melnikoff has created a series of unique artworks from fragments of military munitions. Among them are the renowned installation *The Cross of Peace with the Golden Crucifix* and the sculpture *The Holy Mandylion*, which art critics regard as an unquestionable masterpiece of contemporary art.





To enhance the expressiveness of his unique artworks, the artist uses electroplating to coat fragments of splintered material with various metals. Nickel and gold are most commonly used. In the artwork *The Holy Mandyion*, for example, the image of the “towel” is covered with gold of the highest purity — 999.9



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The famous “Golden Crucifix” in the “Cross of Peace” installation, created by Sergey Melnikoff in 2024, was also covered in the highest-grade 999.9 fine gold. In his work Terminally Ill Angel, the artist will also apply galvanic coating during the final stage of crafting the Angel’s wings. Some of the “feathers” will be covered in gold, while others will shine with mirror-polished nickel. This artistic choice emphasizes the divine origin, as befits a true Angel.

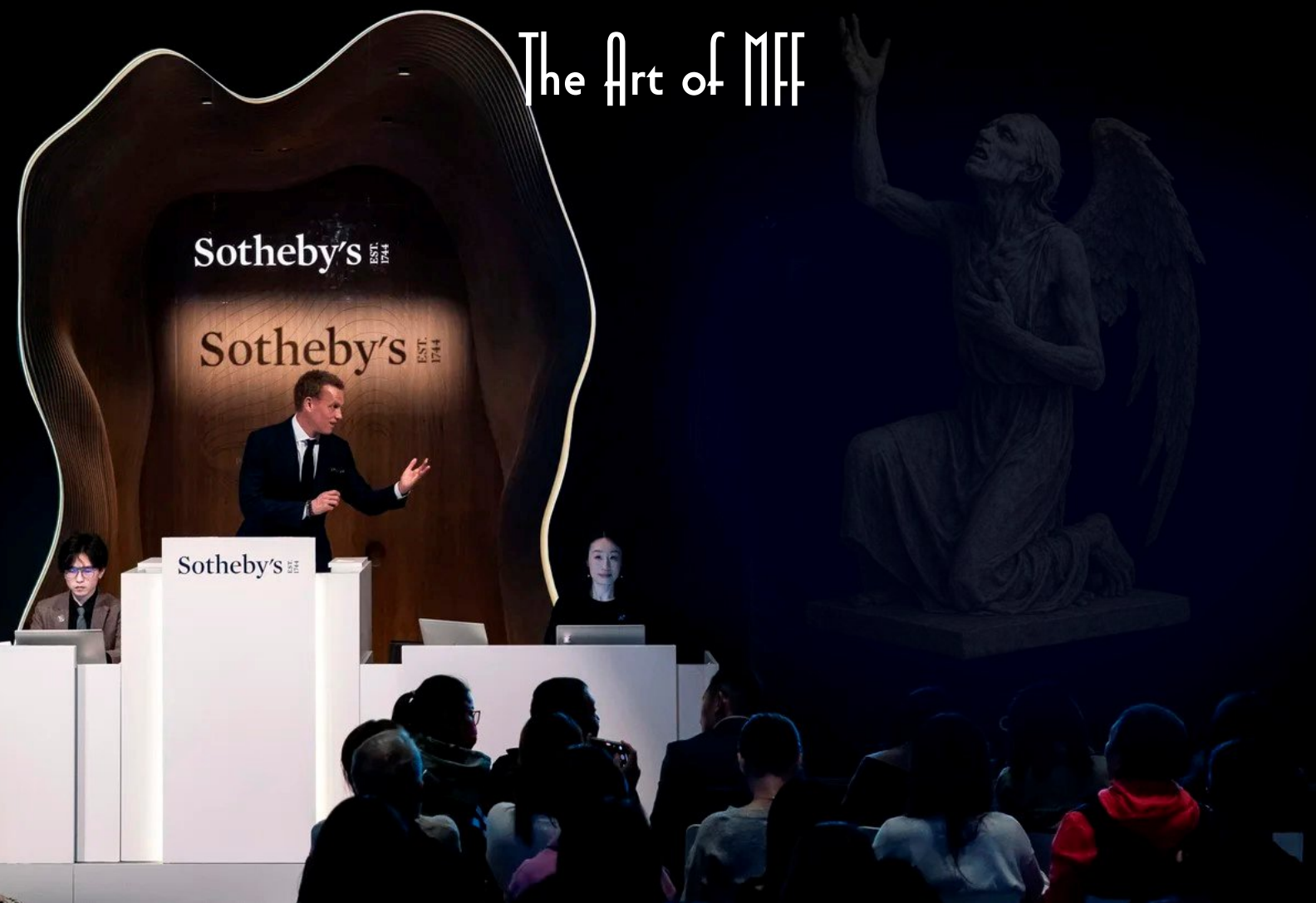


# The Art of MFF





# The Art of MFF



The completed sculpture “Terminally Ill Angel” may be appraised by international experts from Sotheby’s Auction House, as well as by Artificial Intelligence, with an estimated value ranging from \$1,500,000 to \$3,000,000 USD. The final valuation will depend on factors such as the auction venue, the context of the event, and the level of global media coverage. Considering the current trend of soaring prices for unique artworks, the concept behind the sculpture “Terminally Ill Angel” embodies all the hallmarks of an outstanding art piece. Its value on the international art market could potentially exceed the record set by Jeff Koons’ “Rabbit,” which was sold for \$91.1 million in 2019.

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The Art of MFF



# A GIFT LIKE NO OTHER MELNIKOFF

## Who Is MFF?

**Sergey Melnikoff** — known as MFF — is a National Hero of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria for his personal contributions to the informational resistance against Russia.

He is a full cavalier of all grades of the Ukrainian Order of Saint Equal-to-the-Apostles Prince Volodymyr the Great and the recipient of numerous international honors.

A descendant of an ancient Ukrainian Cossack lineage, Melnikoff was a Soviet dissident and political prisoner who daringly escaped the USSR with his wife and infant daughter. Today, he is a celebrated American artist and a pioneer of revolutionary photographic techniques.

In 2014, alongside the legendary academician **Borys Paton**, he founded “The Soul of Ukraine,” an international charitable foundation.

Melnikoff is the only photographer in history whose works have been accepted as personal gifts by world figures such as U.S. President **George Bush**, Queen **Elizabeth II**, Pope **Francis I**, King **Birendra** of Nepal, the **14th Dalai Lama**, Pope **Benedict XVI**, and many others.

His public artistic face is His Holiness the **14th Dalai Lama**, Nobel Peace Prize laureate.



# The Art of MFF



Melnikoff has worked in 150 countries across all continents and is one of the top ten most influential figures in contemporary art. His cinematographic achievements include directing “Hour of Adventures,” “Treasure Hunters,” and “There Is No Place in the World for Wild Animals.”

He even persuaded Tajik President Emomali Rahmon to rename the second-highest peak in the Pamirs from “Korzhenevskaya” to “Ozodi Peak” (Freedom) in 2020.

He is also the author of “The Genius,” the world's first AI-generated portrait of a living person — depicting academician Borys Paton.

Melnikoff's accolades affirm his status as one of the most highly decorated and influential artists of our time.



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# Mother Teresa

## International Rehabilitation Center for Ukrainian Children of War

Under Management of The Soul of Ukraine Foundation, Inc.,  
a US Division of the Soul of Ukraine International Charitable Foundation

## Message of Gratitude



[www.rehab.soulofukraine.foundation](http://www.rehab.soulofukraine.foundation)







**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,**

For three long years, we have labored tirelessly—driven by one unwavering goal:  
to build a sanctuary in Albania, a place of healing and renewal for Ukrainian children whose lives  
have been shattered by the merciless war unleashed by fascist Russia.  
Today, I offer you not simply art, but sacred relics forged from sorrow and courage—unique creations  
born of destruction itself. I call them “Ashes of War,” crafted from artillery fragments, mortar  
casings, and the cold, lifeless metal of violence.  
Yet within these remnants, beauty has arisen.  
Each piece holds more than artistic expression—it holds the silence of a ruined home,  
the cry of a child, the tear of a mother, the heartbeat of a people who refuse to surrender.  
These are not merely sculptures. They are testaments. They are hope incarnate.  
They are love transformed by fire.  
Every cent from their sale will go toward realizing a dream: the Mother Teresa Center.  
A haven where wounded children may rediscover joy, restore their dignity,  
and learn to fly again on healing wings.  
Because of your compassion—because you believe in light amid darkness—I dare  
to hope this long—held vision is now within reach.  
From the depths of my heart, thank you for standing with us.

**Sergey Melnikoff**



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© Sergey Melnikoff, a.k.a. MFF

Photos by Olexander Zolotarev and Maria Universaliuk  
The Soul of Ukraine Foundation, Inc.

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